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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:
McCoy, et al.

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SERIAL NO. 09/832,303

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EXAMINER: COLILLA

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FILED: 04/10/2001

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GROUP ART UNIT: 2854

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TITLE: IMPROVED METHOD FOR CUSTOM IMPRINTING PLASTIC IDENTIFIER TAGS

MAIL STOP AF
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated 02/26/2004, a copy of which is attached, please consider the following:

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved process for imprinting plastic identification tags with durable indicia comprising the steps of:

selecting a plastic tag blank;

printing indicia on said plastic tag blank;

overlying said indicia, once said indicia is printed on a ~~printing service of said tag blank~~ said

plastic tag blank, with a thin, plastic film to form a juxtaposed pairing of said plastic

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tag blank and said plastic film; and
applying heat to said juxtaposed pairing sufficient to weld said indicia to said plastic tag
blank; and
removing said plastic film from said plastic tag blank after said applying heat.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said printing is effected through use of a computer-driven printer.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said printing is effected through use of a computer-driven ink jet printer.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said applying heat is effected by pressing a heated platen against said the juxtaposed pairing.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said plastic film is a polyester film of approximately 19 microns in thickness.
6. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said plastic film is a polyester film.
7. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said plastic film is a polyester film.
8. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said platen is heated to a temperature of between approximately 350° F and 400° F.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this the 13 day of March, 2004.



David G. Henry /